

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 29, 2008***

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 P.M. Selectmen present were: Rosanne Gilbert, Michael Woodworth and Wes Moore. Others present were Chief Art Reed, Lt. Anne Gould, Brian Knipstein, Don Doane and Sue McKinnon.

Chief Reed brought in the DWI and Speed Enforcement Grant paperwork. They were reviewed by the board and signed by Wes Moore. Chief Reed will forward the paperwork to the state. The Chief informed the board that the Alcohol Compliance Grant paperwork should arrive in one to two weeks.

Chief Reed discussed the plans of the Hazardous Mitigation Committee including possible future grants and strategic planning. The Committee will have their next meeting on May 12, 2008, which will include the Road Agent. The plan is about 75% complete.

Chief Reed informed the board that the Police Department is holding their third annual Trash Pick-Up Day on Saturday, May 10, 2008. The Department along with volunteers will be working on cleaning up both Route 87 and Route 85.

At 6:43 PM, Wes Moore requested a closed session with Chief Reed and Lt. Gould.

The meeting reconvened for public session at 7:01 PM.

Chief Reed discussed that he has been in touch with Christine Wilson about the purchase of the AED. He is checking pricing and will let the board know what is decided.

Road Agent Brian Knipstein informed the Board that the paving vendor is holding material prices at last years cost until June. He would like to at least get Hemlock Court done before prices increase. The board agreed.

Rosanne inquired whether the snow removal was over budget. Brian informed her that he would not have final figures until December.

The damaged mailbox on Partridge Hill Road was discussed. It was decided that it was not damaged by the snowplows. A letter will be sent to the homeowner explaining the finding of the board and the road agent.

Town Treasurer Don Doane spoke to the board about his fees for reports and mileage. His check was then signed. The meeting with John Lyford was also discussed with Don. He agreed that more training on the new accounting system is needed. Rosanne will call John Lyford to find out pricing for training and spot audits. The board would like to meet with Don and Sue McKinnon about this subject at a later date. All board members and Don Doane agreed that the town needs to bring their accounting practices up to modern standards. Wes Moore would like to see a CPA added to the executive staff next year.

A letter from Don Doane allowing Sue McKinnon to make deposits for the town was signed by the board.

The elderly exemption application was signed. Sue McKinnon requested that the board consider revising the elderly exemption guidelines. This will be added to the warrant list for future discussion.

The cell tower development agreement was signed and will be forwarded to the Planning Board.

Wes explained the plans that the Martins at 77 Main Street discussed with him about putting up a fence next to their house. Michael expressed concern about future legal issues because it may be partly on town owned property. Wes will draft a letter to the Martins outlining the issues and resolutions. The board would like to meet with the Martins at the next meeting.

The correspondence from Gateway To Learning will be tabled until further information can be gathered.

The correspondence from Clay Mitchell concerning the cell tower was discussed. Wes will call Fran Lane concerning return of the five thousand dollar retainer to the company.

Correspondence from some residents concerning the slate from the roof was discussed. It was agreed that Newfields residents may take the slate beginning May 5, 2008. The board requests that this be done neatly and that the plastic stay around the piles.

Rosanne made a motion to accept the April 22, 2008 minutes as written. Michael seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

At 8:32 P.M. Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rosanne seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Smith
Administrative Assistant